

SHERIFF CORONER-MARSHAL



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EDWARD N. BONNER SHERIFF-CORONER-MARSHAL STEPHEN L. D'ARCY

PRESS RELEASE

Date/Time of Release:

Tuesday, May 29, 2007 4:15 p.m.

Date/Time of Occurrence:

Tuesday, May 29, 2007 5 p.m. Woman Drowns In American River

Nature of Event: Location of Call:

Auburn

Released by:

Dena Erwin, PIO (530) 889-6901

SHERIFF EDWARD N. BONNER RELEASES THE FOLLOWING:

Today, members of the Placer County Sheriff Department's dive team located the body of a Citrus Heights woman who disappeared in the American River Monday afternoon.

Shauna Pikul, 27, was first reported missing at 4:15 p.m. Monday while rafting with friends in the American River, near the Mammoth Bar Off-Highway Vehicle Park. She fell from the inner tube she was riding in and was pulled toward the Murderer's Bar rapids.

The drowning victim, who was not wearing a life vest, was pulled downriver toward the rapids and was not seen again. A search was initiated from the shore and air, with three helicopters scanning the water from Folsom Lake upstream.

Tuesday morning, the frigid river flows were lowered from 1,100 cubic feet per second to 200 cubic feet per second, allowing two teams of three Sheriff's Department divers to enter the water. The victim was located a short time later under an overhanging rock.

With summer rapidly approaching, the Sheriff's Department would like to caution anyone using area rivers and lakes to wear personal flotation devices and other safety equipment.